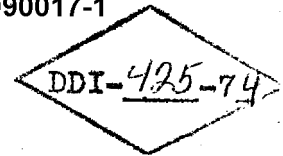


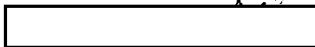
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4 February 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, OPR

FROM :



SUBJECT : Perceptions of the US Role in Europe: The
Case of France

1. Health permitting, President Georges Pompidou should continue to control France until his seven year term expires in 1976. A worsening of his condition could cause him to resign before then; in that case, an early Presidential election would be held, and the reins of power would pass to a new French President -- perhaps even this year.

2. Given its constitutional prerogatives, the French presidency sets the tone and the substance of French policies which impinge on US interests. Any new incumbent would continue to exercise authority over these policies. In addition, the backing of the current governing coalition would give a new President much of the cross-the-board influence which Pompidou has enjoyed.

3. This paper will examine President Pompidou's perception of the US role in Europe now and in the future; it will also consider the perceptions of the fewer than half a dozen French presidential hopefuls. Listed approximately in descending order of probability, these are:

- a. Jacques Chaban-Delmas, former Prime Minister, Gaullist, and currently Mayor of Bordeaux;
- b. Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Finance Minister and leader of the Independent Republicans (IR);
- c. Francois Mitterrand, First Secretary of the Socialist Party (PS) and chief spokesman for the United Left which includes the French Communist Party (PCF);
- d. Olivier Guichard, Minister of Equipment and Housing, Gaullist; and

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e. Edgar Faure, President of the National Assembly and left-wing Gaullist.

In addition to the above, Foreign Minister Michel Jobert's perceptions of the US role will be examined, in view of his position as Pompidou's closest personal adviser on foreign policy.

4. The opinions of these men have not been shaped -- nor do they exist -- in a vacuum. We will explore the influences exerted upon them by external forces, the legacy of de Gaulle, their principle advisers and confidants, and the political pressures brought to bear by French farming, business and industrial, and, to a lesser extent, labor interests.

5. In the course of this study, we expect to identify a common politically practical view of short- and medium-term French national interest which would govern many of the policies and actions of any French President vis-a-vis US initiatives or interests. We will describe this base line as accurately as possible. But there should also be significant differences in the perceptions of the French leaders to be discussed -- particularly in the case of Francois Mitterrand who could only attain the presidency with Communist backing. We intend to explore these differences carefully.

6. The data base available for this study may not be completely adequate. We plan to exploit OPR and CRS files, periodical literature, appropriate English and foreign language press, and other publications. We intend to consult with Department of State analysts and Desk Officers concerned with French matters. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
we would like to identify and consult with one or more appropriate specialists in the US academic community.

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		Executive Registry 711-5071
MEMORANDUM FOR: The DCI and [redacted]		
<p>Here is a prospectus prepared by Al Brody as the departure point for our OPR Study on <u>Perceptions of the US Role in Europe: The Case of France.</u> [redacted] and I would be pleased to have your comments and suggestions. Are we right in feeling that [redacted] could be especially helpful? Who would you think of as the most useful specialist to consult in academia?</p> <p>We are also sending this to [redacted] and asking his ideas.</p> <p>[redacted]</p> <p><u>4 February 74</u> (DATE)</p>		
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MEMORANDUM FOR: D/OPR

[Redacted]

Mr. Proctor would like your response to Mr. Colby's question.

/
Thanks,

[Redacted]

O/DDI

19 Feb 74
(DATE)

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(47)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Proctor (info Walsh)

Perhaps you understand Mr. Colby's question on this.

Any action?

Send to D/OPR for answer to question.

*Done?
Response
Attached.*

[Redacted]

Fute: OPR
14 Feb 74
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
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(47)

DCI/DDCI

Routing Slip

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		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	IG		
2	DDCI			12	D/PPB		
3	DDS&T			13	SAVA		
4	DDI	✓		14	ASST/DCI		
5	DDO		✓	15	AO/DCI		
6	DDM&S			16	EX/SEC		
7	D/DCI/IC			17			
8	D/ONEO		✓	18			
9	GC			19			
10	LC			20			

SUSPENSE

Date

Remarks:

Would it be
worth a visit?

[Signature]

DCI/DDCI

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